

# COME PARTICIPATE IN THE MERCED TO SACRAMENTO HIGH-SPEED TRAIN PROJECT!

*The California High-Speed Rail Authority will host public scoping meetings along the project section to provide the public with an opportunity to learn about the project, ask questions and provide feedback about what project alternatives and environmental issues should be evaluated in the EIR/EIS. Please join us for one of the following Open House sessions:*

## STOCKTON

January 20, 2010

3:00 - 7:00 pm

San Joaquin Council of Governments  
555 E. Weber Avenue, Stockton, CA

## MERCED

January 21, 2010

3:00 - 7:00 pm

Merced Senior Center  
755 W. 15th Street, Merced, CA

## SACRAMENTO

January 27, 2010

3:00 - 7:00 pm

Amtrak Depot, Model Room  
301 I Street, Sacramento, CA

## MODESTO

January 28, 2010

3:00 - 7:00 pm

Modesto Center Plaza  
1000 L Street, Modesto, CA

## COMMENTS

*Public scoping comments regarding the Merced-to-Sacramento HST project will be accepted until Wednesday, February 26, 2010. Please send comments to Dan Leavitt, Deputy Director, Merced-to-Sacramento, California High-Speed Rail Authority, 925 L Street, Suite 1425, Sacramento, CA 95814. Comments can also be submitted via email to [comments@hsr.ca.gov](mailto:comments@hsr.ca.gov) with the subject line "Merced to Sacramento HST."*

## PARTNERSHIPS

*The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRRRC) has expressed interest in operating regional passenger rail service in this section of the Authority's system which may result in the development of additional stations for such a service. SJRRRC manages and operates the current Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) service between Stockton and San Jose. The SJRRRC and the Authority have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which recognizes their mutual interest in the development of this section of the HST System and that establishes SJRRRC as a local partner for the development of the Merced to Sacramento HST Project.*

## CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED TRAIN PROJECT WILL:

- Be built on dedicated right-of-way, safely separated from cars and trucks, pedestrians and other rail traffic
- Use only a fraction of the energy of automobiles and airplanes
- Help free California from dependence on fossil fuels and reduce greenhouse gases that cause global warming.
- Reduce traffic – the statewide system will remove over 50 million auto trips per year
- An additional 600,000 jobs are expected to be created as a result of the economic growth the train system will bring to California
- Improve the environment – the energy efficient, high-speed trains will provide a transportation alternative that will help reduce air pollution.
- Provide better connections – provides a safer, time and cost efficient alternative to automobiles and will help relieve overcrowding at major airports

**For more information visit [www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov)**





**FLY CALIFORNIA**  
*Without ever leaving the ground.*

# WHAT IS THE HIGH-SPEED TRAIN?

*The California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) is proposing high-speed train service for travel between Los Angeles and San Diego in the south to the San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento in the north. This fast, safe, reliable system will travel at speeds in excess of 200 miles per hour and is estimated to carry approximately 100 million passengers annually for the entire 800-mile high-speed train network by the year 2030.*

## **MERCED TO SACRAMENTO HIGH-SPEED TRAIN PROJECT**

*The Merced-to-Sacramento section of the High-Speed Train (HST) system includes the City of Sacramento south to the City of Merced. Proposed route alternatives generally follow the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), the Central California Traction (CCT) or the Union Pacific (UP) railroads throughout the section. HST stations are proposed in Sacramento, Stockton, Modesto, and Merced. (See detailed map inside.)*



# CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED TRAIN SYSTEM



## IMPLEMENTATION AND CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

PROGRAM - EIR/EIS

PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS & F

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012



# ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) initiated the project-level environmental review process for the high-speed train project between Merced and Sacramento.

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Authority has issued a Notice of Preparation (NOP), and the FRA published a Notice of Intent (NOI) for the preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). As part of the initial phase of the environmental process, public scoping meetings will be hosted to receive public comment on the alternatives and issues that should be examined as part of the environmental analysis. Your comments will be considered in the preparation of the environmental document and will become part of the public record.



## WHAT IS SCOPING?

Scoping is the first opportunity to become involved in the Merced-to-Sacramento HST project-level Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). During the scoping process the public, as well as city, county, state, and federal agencies have an opportunity to provide comments on project alternatives and environmental impacts to be evaluated in the EIR/EIS. The purpose of the scoping process is to:

- identify public and agency concerns early in the environmental process
- receive input on alternatives and issues that will be examined in the Draft EIR
- save time in the overall process and facilitate an efficient EIR/EIS preparation process

